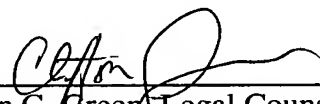


REMARKS

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended, claims 30, 32 and 33 have been withdrawn and amended, claims 2-9, 25-29, 31 and 34-44 have been withdrawn from consideration at this time, claims 10-11 and 13-24 remain as originally filed, and claim 45 has been added. The amendments are intended to clarify the invention and are fully supported by the specification, drawings and claims of parent application Serial No. 09/910,224. No new matter is believed or intended to be involved.

Respectfully submitted,



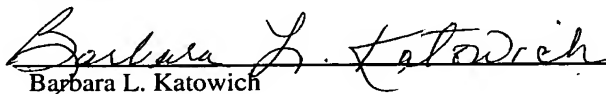
Clifton G. Green, Legal Counsel
Telephone: (269) 923-5604

WHIRLPOOL PATENTS COMPANY
500 Renaissance Drive – Suite 102
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: October 15, 2004



Barbara L. Katowich

T:\techlaw\patentus\amd\US20000055-1amd.doc